

Year 4 Home Learning Summer Term 1 Week 3

Hello Maple & Sycamore

First of all, apologies for the mistake with getting vertebrates and invertebrates mixed up in last week's topic activity 2. We are doing our best but inevitably the odd mistake will happen. If you think we have made a mistake, please contact us so we can sort it out. For the next two weeks, we will be looking at *The Great Kapok Tree* by Lynne Cherry.

Please try to share your learning with us via the school Facebook page or email them so they can go on the school website. Remember to do the activities in order.

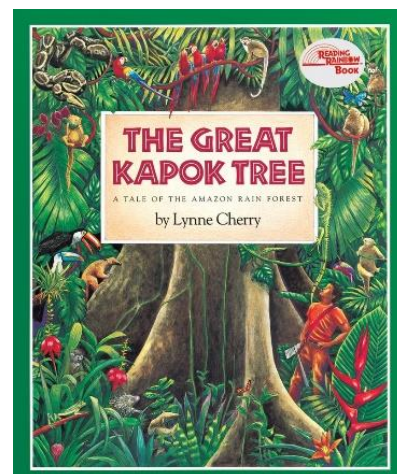
This is a four day week due to Friday being a bank holiday!

Best Wishes *Mr Bowman, Mrs Scruby and Mrs Jackson.*

English – The Great Kapok Tree

We have included a separate pdf document of the story with kind permission from the publisher.

Activity 1: **Before** you read the story, **study the front cover.** Look closely at the illustrations and title. Discuss with an adult or member of your family.



Who is in the picture? Who is the man and what is he doing? What do you know about the Amazon rainforest? What do you think is significant about the tree? What do you predict this story will be about?

You might like to find out about Kapok trees. (Here is a fun 1 minute video to watch [How big is a kapok tree](#)) to help your predictions.

Record answers in your purple book.

Afterwards, read the letter from the author on the 2nd page. Does this confirm or change your predictions? Note down any further ideas.

Activity 2: Read the story in full. Look up any unfamiliar words with a dictionary or ask an adult. Use the map of the rainforests and further notes from the author to help your understanding of the story.

Activity 3: Consider the questions below. You might like to discuss these with someone first and then answer them in your book.

- 1. Write a list of all the animals mentioned in the story.*
- 2. Which animal do you think was the most persuasive? Explain your choice.*
- 3. The jaguar could be considered selfish. Why do you think this is?*
- 4. Which word does the tree frog repeat three times? Why do you think the author chose this word and how does repeating this word help the frog's argument?*
- 5. Many of the animals give good factual reasons for not chopping down the tree. Which animals give the best explanation? Explain your choice.*

Activity 4: Role play. Take on the part of all the animals and act out their speeches. You may need an adult or someone at home to play the sleeping man (a part, we are certain lots of adults will be keen to play!). Carefully study the speeches. Consider the use of emotive words, punctuation and animal viewpoints to deliver these with the

correct expression. Do you see any patterns in the speeches? You might like to dress up, use movement and sound effects to build your performance.

Maths – Fractions

See additional attachments.

Topic

Geography

Activity 1: As the *Great Kapok Tree* story is set in the Amazon rain forest we are going to be exploring this amazing and unique habitat or biome this week. To learn a bit more please watch this short video [Rain forests](#)

Now watch it a second time and make notes of the most interesting facts about rain forests. You will be able to pause it easily to write things down. Next choose 5 of your favourite facts from your notes and make a list of them in your purple book.

Here is another brilliant and very funny video crammed with true facts about the Amazon rain forest for you to enjoy too. [25 Facts about the Amazon rain forest](#)

Activity 2: Tropical rain forests are composed of different layers as in the diagram here. Your challenge is to find

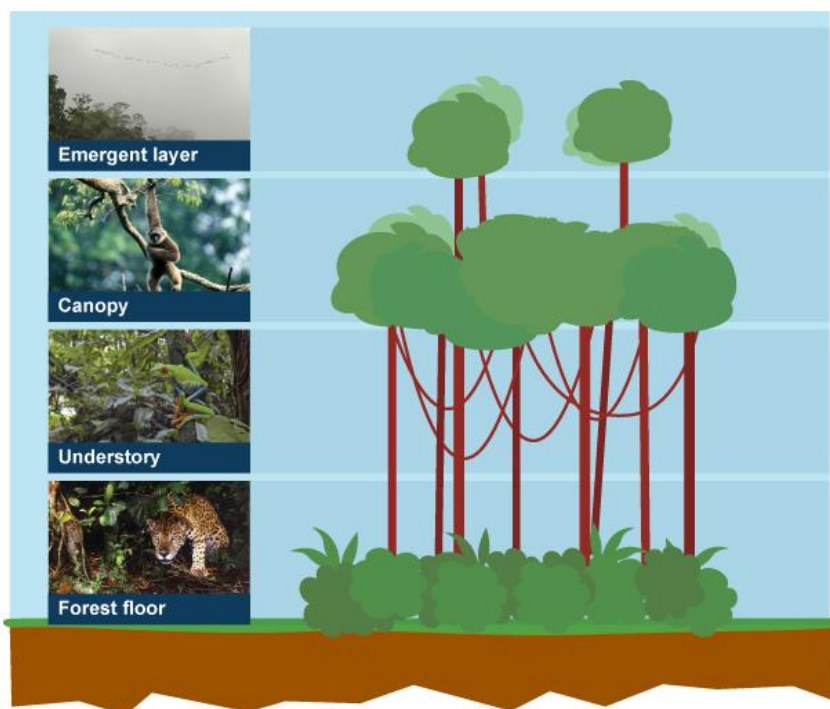
out what each layer consists of in terms of plant life and draw your own **labelled diagram** like this one in your purple books. If you use a new double page you can draw this diagram on the left hand page and then add Activity 3 onto the right hand page.

There are lots of videos and information on the internet to help you. Don't forget to look at the measurements for some of the trees in the emergent layer- you'll be astounded!

This film will get you started.

[Exploring life in the rain forest](#)

Layers of the forest



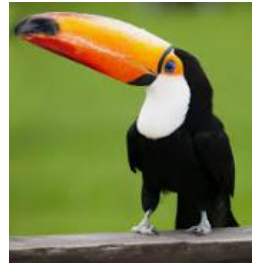
Activity 3: Now you need to add the animal life that is typically found in each layer of a tropical rain forest. The following website from BBC Bite size is full of information, don't be put off by it being for KS3, it's quite easy to understand.

[BBC Bite size Tropical Forest Biomes KS3](#)

Art

Activity 4: Toucans are one of the best known birds that inhabit tropical rain forests. Here is your chance to learn how to draw a really realistic one. Please watch this tutorial and have a go yourself. [How to draw a realistic toucan](#)

Don't worry if you don't have oil pastels to colour your picture in, just use whatever you have at home and have fun. There are lots of other 'how to draw' animal videos online so this might inspire you to draw more. We'd love to see your pictures when they're finished.



Finally...

Well done for getting to the end of another week at home. We know that everyone, you, your parents, your siblings and us (your teachers) are finding home-schooling tricky and some days are better than others.

All we ask is for you to try your best with the work we set. We know it's work that you're are capable of doing especially if you use what you have already learnt in Year 4 since September. 😊